Railway Contract of Service for Providing Bendings Etc.

3023. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contract of service for providing beddings, pillows and blankets in AC sleepers is given to private parties in some trains like the AP Express and others;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that the parties provide very poor quality and unhygenic service;

(c) whether there are several complaints in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve these services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Some complaints have been received.

(d) Zonal Railways have been instructed that the existing contracts should not be renewed and no fresh contracts be given for supply of bed rolls in AC Sleeper Class and the supply of bed rolls will be managed departmentally.

Non-Availability of Urea to the Farmers

3024. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are not getting urea in the open market and through cooperative societies;

(b) if so, the complaints received by Government from each State in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to provide urea to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) During the current Rabi season, no specific and verifiable case of non-availability of urea to farmers in open market and through cooperative societies has been received in this Ministry.

Failure of Elementary Education Programme

*3025. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Elementary Education Programme launched by Government has not proved successful;

(b) if so, the main cause of its failure;

(c) the percentage of target achieved in each State after it was launched, till date; and

(d) the amount given to each State for this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Government have successfully launched a District Primary Education Programme in 1994 to achieve the objectives of Universalisation of Elementary Education.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The programme is being implemented in 11 States. The details of State-wise grants relased under the Programme so far are given in the attached